



# **Santa Clara River**

## **Floodplain Protection Program**

# Santa Clara River





## Santa Clara River Watershed

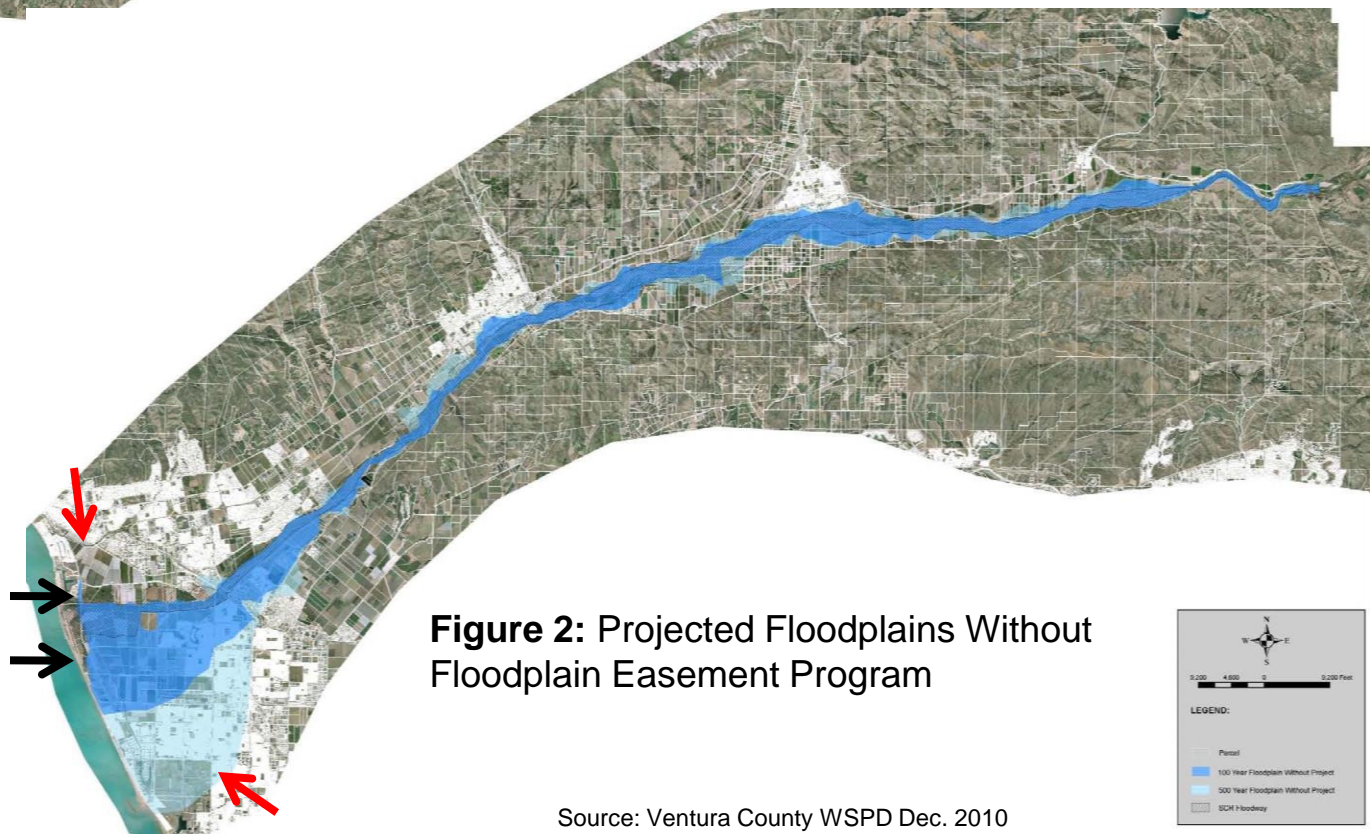
*Loss (500yr.):*  
**\$512M**  
**6,476 homes**

**Figure 1:** Floodplains at Current Condition and With Floodplain Easement Program



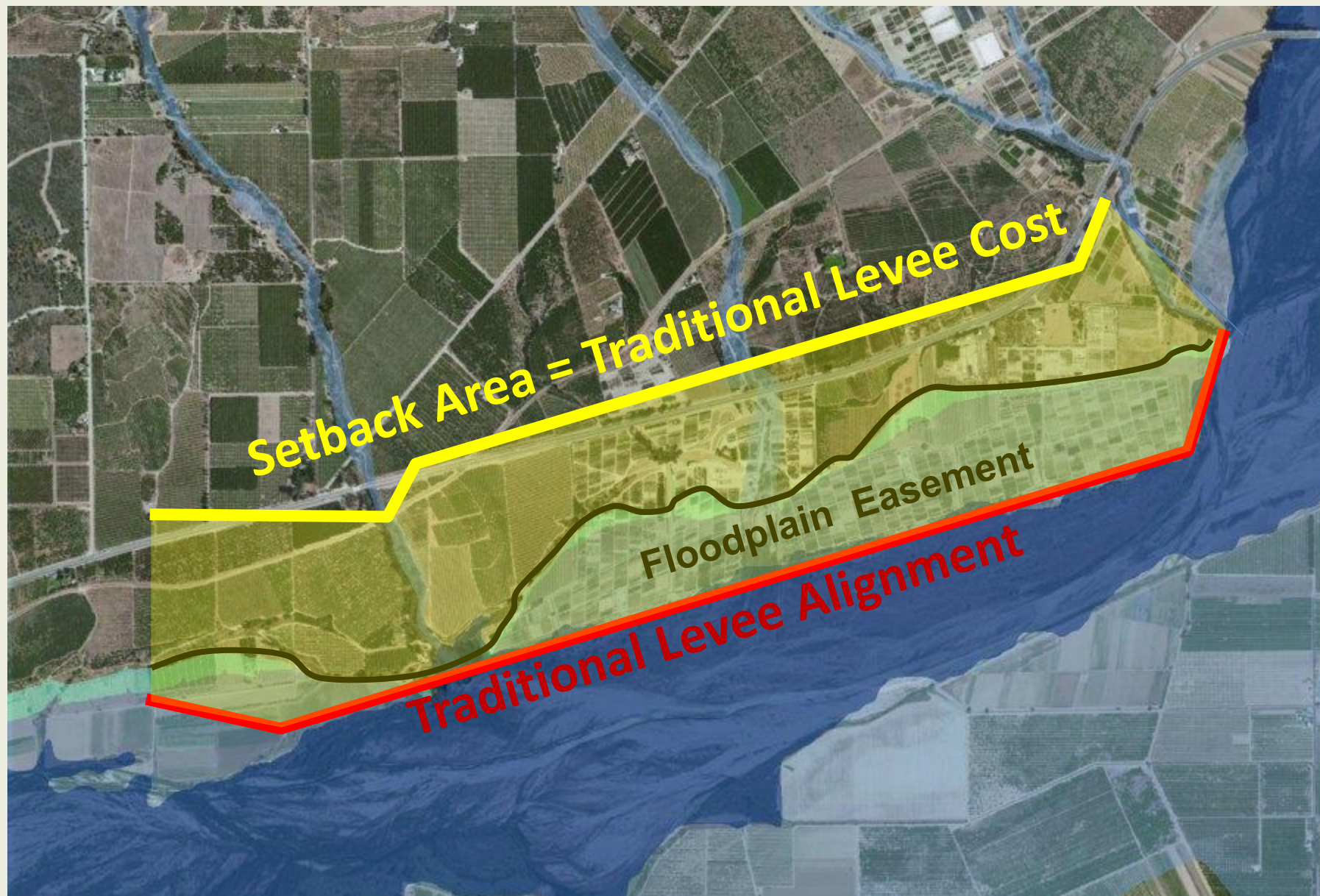
*Loss:*  
**\$1.56B**  
**28,104 homes**

**Figure 2:** Projected Floodplains Without Floodplain Easement Program

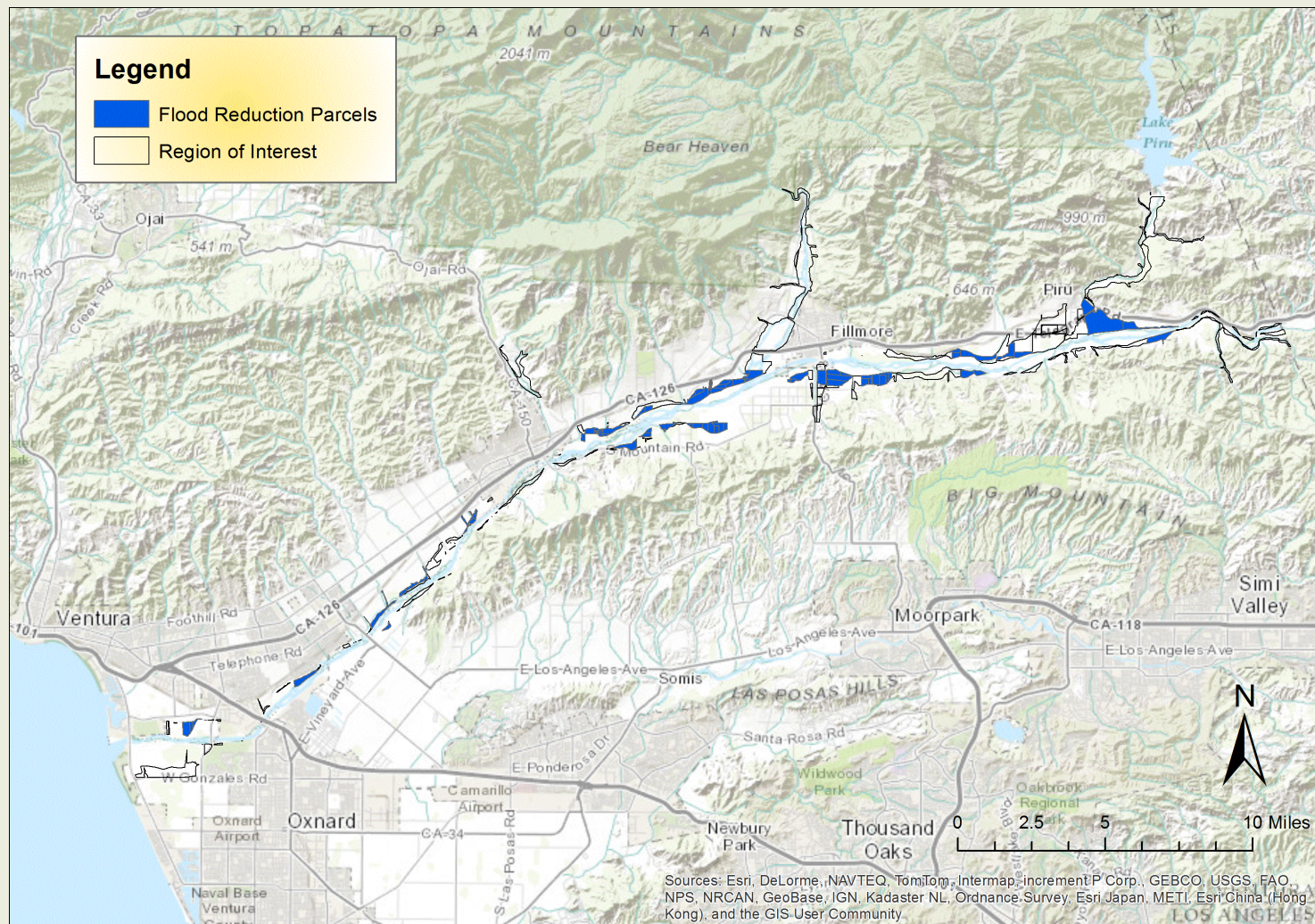


Source: Ventura County WSPD Dec. 2010









## Open Floodplain Benefits

Lower initial costs than levees.

No maintenance costs.

Compatible with existing economic use (Ag).

Beneficial to wetlands habitat.

Beneficial to surface water quality.

Avoids regulatory issues (CEQA, 404, 1600 Permits).

Eliminates “decertification” issues.

Improves ground water recharge.

Downstream flood protection benefits.

“Adversaries” become partners in implementation.

Funding is available!

## Floodplain Protection Program Progress

- ✓ Floodplain Working Group created (VCWSPD, Farm Bureau, RCD, NRCS & TNC).
- ✓ \$4.5M in grants approved (IRWMP = \$3.0M, SCRTC = \$1.5M).
- ✓ Parcel prioritization completed.
- ✓ Prepare model inundation easement.
- ☐ Acquire Easements.